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... a monthly bulletin from Canadian Hydrographic Service

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July Precipitation Over the Great Lakes

As a percentage of the long-term July average:

Great Lakes Basin	74%
Lake Erie (including Lake St. Clair)	107%
Lake Superior	77%
Lakes Michigan-Huron	53%
Lake Ontario	106%

Note: These figures are preliminary.

July Outflows From the Great Lakes

As a percentage of

LEVEL news

Great Lakes - St. Lawrence River Water Levels

Volume 6, Number 8 **August 6, 1998**

Water Levels on All Lakes Decline

Risk of Shore Damage Continues to Ease

The risk of serious flood and erosion damages to shore properties on the Great Lakes continues to ease, as water levels on all the lakes declined during July. Water levels are expected to continue to decline over the next few months under average weather conditions. All of the lakes are significantly below their levels of one year ago.

Dry conditions over Lakes Superior and Michigan-Huron throughout July caused levels on these lakes to decline at a time when they are usually still rising. After experiencing a near average increase in its level in June, Lake Superior fell 3 cm during July. At the beginning of August, the lake was 16 cm below average.

After experiencing virtually no change in its level since April, Lake Huron fell 9 cm during the month. Lake Huron was 20 cm above average at the beginning of August. Both lakes may have reached their seasonal peaks during July.

While heavy rainfall was experienced over Lakes St. Clair, Erie and Ontario early in the month, dry conditions during much of the month allowed these lakes to continue their steady decline which began in April or May. Lakes St. Clair and Erie both experienced a decline of about 9 cm from the beginning of July to the end of the month, while Lake Ontario fell 15 cm over the same period. As a result, at the beginning of August, Lakes St. Clair, Erie and Ontario were 35 cm, 36 cm and 9 cm above average, respectively.

Lake St. Lawrence levels were well below seasonal average in July, due to high flows at the hydropower dam at Cornwall, Ontario. Water levels in this part of the St. Lawrence River are expected to continue to decline slowly for the rest of the year.

Below Cornwall, the levels on Lake St. Francis and Lake St. Louis were generally higher than average in July, due mainly to the high flows from Lake Ontario. Montreal levels last month were near the post-1967 average value.

Accessing Water Level Data by Telephone

Present water levels on the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River are

the long-term July average:

Lake Superior	78%
Lake Erie	116%
Lake Huron	103%
Lake Ontario	119%

Note: These figures are preliminary.

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Summary information for "LEVEL*news*"

available from a network of gauging stations operated by the Canadian Hydrographic Service. Phone numbers for the stations are listed below. When you call a particular station, the answering equipment will ask you to press 1 for English or 2 for French, on the keypad of your touch-tone phone. If you do not have a touch-tone phone, the message will start after a few seconds delay. The present water level is given in metres relative to chart datum at that station. Next the message gives the high and low water levels recorded during the previous 12 hours, followed by the elevation of chart datum. You can press 1 or 2 at any time during the message to have it start again, or press 0 to end the call. Call (905) 336-4844 (Fax 905-336-8916 or chs@cciw.ca) to report any problems or to obtain additional information.

Lake Superior	at Thunder Bay	(807) 344-3141
	at Rossport	(807) 824-2250
	at Michipicoten	(705) 949-1886
	at Gros Cap	(705) 779-2052
St. Marys River	above the lock	(705) 949-2066
	below the lock	(705) 254-7989
North Channel	at Thessalon	(705) 842-2215
	at Little Current	(705) 368-3695
Georgian Bay	at Parry Sound	(705) 746-6544
	at Collingwood	(705) 445-8737
Lake Huron	at Tobermory	(519) 596-2085
	at Goderich	(519) 524-8058
St. Clair River	at Point Edward	(519) 344-0263
	at Port Lambton	(519) 677-4092
Lake St. Clair	at Belle River	(519) 728-2882
Detroit River	at Amherstburg	(519) 736-4357
	at Bar Point	(519) 736-7488
	at Kingsville	(519) 733-4417
Lake Erie	at Erieau	(519) 676-1915
	at Port Stanley	(519) 782-3866
	at Port Dover	(519) 583-2259
	at Port Colborne	(905) 835-2501
	at Port Weller	(905) 646-9568
	at Burlington	(905) 544-5610
Lake Ontario	at Toronto	(416) 868-6026
	at Cobourg	(905) 372-6214
	at Kingston	(613) 544-9264
	at Brockville	(613) 345-0095
	at Iroquois above lock	(613) 652-4426
	at Iroquois below lock	(613) 652-4839

	at Morrisburg	(613) 543-3361
St. Lawrence River	at Cornwall	(613) 930-9373
	at Summerstown	(613) 931-2089

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URL: http://www.on.ec.gc.ca/water/level-news/lvn98aug.html